

WELLINGTON URBAN.



Mr Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary Circumstances of your Town for the year 1938.

It will be noted that the Birth Rate and Infantile Mortality Rate approximate very closely to that of the Country, and, while little can be said of the former, I feel that one should confidently expect an improvement in the rate of deaths among infants with the improved hygiene in the district.

The Death Rate is again below that for the Country.

Remarks applicable to any section of the Report have been made in the appropriate division, and I would direct your attention to that on Infectious Diseases.

Incorporated in the Report is a Summary of the work carried out by the Public Health Staff, and I take this opportunity of thanking your Sanitary Inspector for his close co-operation with me in the working of the department.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

W.A.M. Stewart.

17/6/39.

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF

Medical Officer of Health	W.A.M. Stewart.
Sanitary Inspector	C.G. Speake.
Surveyor (Sewage. Water. Refuse Disposal)	W. Walker.
Health Visitor	Miss Riley

Section A. Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

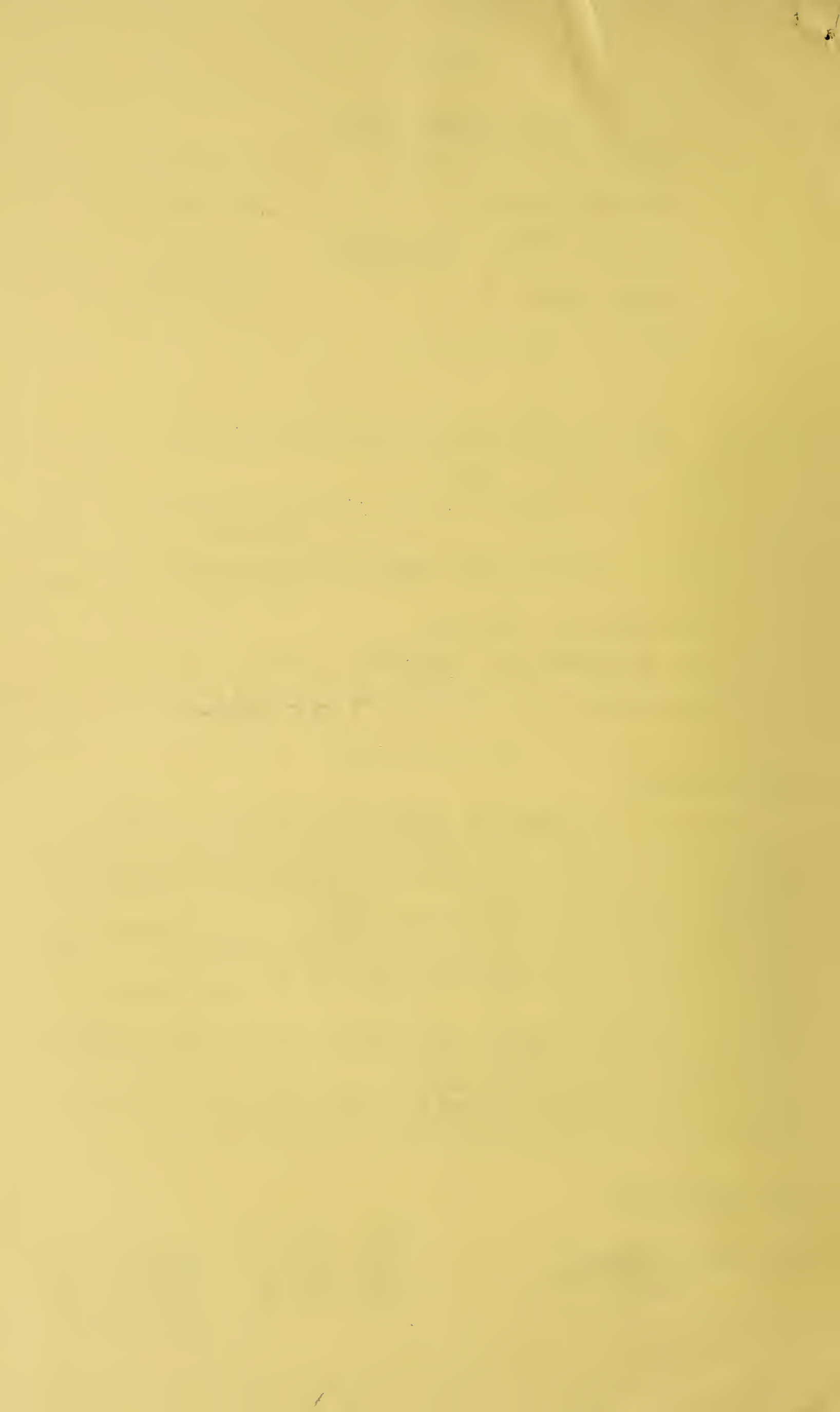
Area (in acres)	2256.
Registrar General's estimate of resident population Mid 1938	9757.
No. of inhabited houses (end of 1938) according to Rate Books	2650.
Rateable Value	£62,496.
Sum represented by a penny Rate	£245 : 7 : 9.
Persons per acre (calculated on population)	4.3

Social conditions.

The residential qualities of the Town continue to attract - evidenced by the growth of new property - principally centred round the main arterial road. Not only do these houses provide for new settlers in the district but also workers in neighbouring villages make Wellington their centre of life. With the adequate travelling facilities any distance difficulty is overcome. Market days attract many country folk from surrounding district & the local pleasure and beauty spots are greatly appreciated by the large influx of persons which takes place each holiday. Work continues to be well maintained, and I am informed employment conditions are improving. Recreative pursuits are adequately provided for - the Town possessing one of the foremost football clubs in the district, and, although there is an absence of local active interest in Cricket, the National Game can be followed at Wrekin College. The more serious form of progress to provide for fitness is shewn in the presence of a branch of the League of Health and Beauty which is largely attended by local ladies.

Vital Statistics.

	Total	M.	F.	
Live Births legitimate	136	69	67	Birth rate per 1000 of the es- -timated resi- -dent popula- -tion 15.16
illegitimate	12	8	4	
	148	77	71	



Still births	legitimate illegitimate	Total	M	F	Birth rate per 1000 total (live & still) births. 45.1
		7	2	3	
Deaths		115	66	49	Death rate per 1000 of estimated resident population 11.7
Deaths from puerperal causes			Deaths		Rate per 1000 total (live & still) 6.
Puerperal sepsis			.1		
Other puerperal causes			-		
	total		1		6.
Rate for England and Wales					2.97.
Death rate of infants under 1 year of age					Deaths M. F.
All infants per 1000 live births					54 4 4
Legitimate infants per 1000 legitimate live births					44.1 2 4
Illegitimate ,, illegitimate ,,					166 2 0
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)					Deaths 16
,, Measles (,,)					-
,, Whooping cough (all ages)					-
,, Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)					-

Population. The mid year population shows an increase of 138 on the calculated mid year population of 1937.

Births.	Number of live births			Birth rate
		1936	142	
	,,	1937	136	14.1
	,,	1938	148	15.1
	Birth rate for England and Wales			15.1

The number of deaths from all causes was 115 (M.66. F. 49). comparing with 121 in 1937, and 107 in 1936. The crude death rate 11.7 after considering the areal comparability factor 0.94 (supplied by the Registrar General) gives an adjusted death rate of 10.99.

Death rate adjusted for 1937	11.75	per 1000 population
,, 1936	10.3	,,
,, for		
England & Wales for 1938	11.6	,,

The principal causes of death were:-

Congenital debility & prematurity	3
Senility	10
Suicide	1
Other forms of violence	5
Cerebral haemorrhage	9
Heart disease	29
Other circulatory diseases	4
Pneumonitis	5
Other causes (excluding infective conditions)	22
Deaths from infective conditions:-	
Influenza	3
Tuberculosis of respiratory system	5
Other tuberculosis	1
Syphilis & G.P.I.	2
Cancer	16

The figures for Cancer show a slight increase on 1937 (13) - for Heart disease a slight rise from 19 to 29. One death occurred from puerperal causes. There were no deaths from measles, whooping cough, scarlet fever or diphtheria.

Death rate for	Tuberculosis (Phthisis) and Cancer		
per 1000 population	1935	0.31	1.76
	1936	0.20	2.59
	1937	0.54	1.35
	1938	0.51	1.63

Infantile Mortality rate:-

1931/35	36 per 1000 live births.
1936	62
1937	80
1938	54
England & Wales	1938
	53

Causes of deaths in infants were:-

Accidental (scalding)	1.
Congenital debility	3.
Convulsions	2.
Meningitis	1.
Unknown cause	1.

Section B.

General provision for Health Services in district.

1. Officers (see page 2).
2. Laboratory facilities. Swabs and other tests for diagnosis are sent to Birmingham University Laboratory. Water analyses are performed by Harper Adams College, Newport, & in certain cases by the Public Analyst, Chester.
3. Ambulance. A modern ambulance for conveyance of non-infectious diseases has been acquired to meet the needs of the district. The Monkmoor Isolation Hospital ambulance is used for all infectious cases.
Mortuary. Negotiations are still in progress to replace the existing mortuary and to allow for facilities consonant with the requirements of the town.
4. Nursing in the home. This work is carried out by a District Nurse and Health Visitor.
Miss Riley's Report.

Home visiting	973	Whooping cough	6
Diphtheric swabs taken	87	Influenza	25
Wrekin Road Infants School	194	Homes reported	10
,, Mixed school	32		
Senior schools	21		
Visits (contacts)	54		
5. Treatment Centres and Clinics. Facilities are provided at the Haygate Road Clinic and all services of the County are practised. These are well attended.

Section C.

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

Water. A plentiful supply is provided by the Wrekin Reservoir gathering from the Wrekin Watershed and this is augmented by supplies



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from Boreholes at Longswood and Slang Lane -- a covered reservoir providing for storage of the Longswood supply. Bacteriological and Chemical tests have been made at regular intervals with satisfactory results.

Sewerage and Drainage. This is under the direction of the Surveyor who reports as follows:-

Certificates issued for water supply to new houses	97.
Houses connected to public water supply	129
Houses connected to public sewerage	66
Lengths of new watermains laid	yds 832

Closet accommodation. A small number of privies still remain in the district. Their continuance is only sanctioned on account of the impossibility of sewerage.

Public cleansing. Provision for regular refuse collection and disposal by weekly removals. Arrangement has been made for the extension of the existing Tip, and for this purpose a Ministry of Health Enquiry was held in the year.

Sanitary Inspection of the Area.

No. of Houses which have been inspected during the period, either in connection with outbreaks of infectious disease or in consequence of complaints or in course of a systematic survey	220
No. of legal notices sent	2
No. of informal notices sent	103
No. of such notices complied with	100
No. of letters written	609

Particulars of sanitary matters referred to in the above notices-

Houses to be disinfected after infectious disease	39
New drains to be constructed or old ones to be amended	38
New closets to be provided or old ones amended in construction	17
Houses damp or dirty or admitting rain or weather or otherwise in a bad sanitary condition	23
Offensive accumulations of all kinds	11
Animals kept so as to be a nuisance	5
Unsuitable refuse receptacles replaced with regulation dustbins	1
Smoke nuisances	2
Nuisances arising from tents vans sheds or similar structures used for human habitation	1

Houses disinfected after infectious disease (other than phthisis)	36
Houses disinfected in cases of phthisis	3

Shops and Offices. Improvements have been made in the heating facilities and sanitation of shops localised in the centre of the town.

Camping sites. No licences have been granted for Camping Grounds in the district.

Smoke abatement. The Sanitary Inspector has taken action in respect to a bad case of smoke nuisance and as a result of reconstruction the condition has been greatly improved.

Swimming Baths and Pools. There is no increase in the number of Swimming Baths in the district. The Public Bath is subjected to repeated water analysis. Associated with a bi-weekly change of water, Chlorox is used.

Eradication of Bed-bugs. Several cases have been reported & investigated in the course of the year. The methods used have been sulphur dioxide and disinfectant spray. Hydrocyanic acid gas is available by contract where necessary and attention has been given in the year to the possibility of making use of Heavy Naphtha - as a County scheme. Schools. The following schools were closed for infectious disease in the current year:-

Constitution Hill Council (Infants). Diphtheria. 13/4/33.

Wrekin Road Council (Infants). Diphtheria. 31/3/33 to 2/2/33.

Section D.

Housing. During the year 23 Clearance Areas involving 120 Houses have been officially inspected and represented to the Council who have made Clearance Orders in respect of all. Nine of these areas comprising 43 houses were the subject of a Ministry of Health Inquiry, and the Orders were confirmed.

Housing Statistics.

Total number of dwellinghouses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health Act or Housing Acts)	100.
Number of inspections made for the purpose	220.
Number of dwellinghouses (included in the above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925-1932	12.
Number of inspections made for the purpose	150.
Number of dwellinghouses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	64
Number of dwellinghouses (exclusive of the above) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	28.
Number of defective dwellinghouses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or Officers	28.

Housing Act 1936. Part IV. Overcrowding.

Number of dwellings overcrowded at end of the year	64.
Number of families dwelling therein	64.
Number of persons dwelling therein	424.
Number of new cases of overcrowding reported in the year	8.
Plans of new houses passed	27.

Section E. Inspection and Supervision of Food.

Milk Supply. Although pasteurised milk is sold in the district there is no scheme for pasteurisation locally.

Milk and Dairies.

Number of cowkeepers & milk sellers on register	40.
Number of premises - cowsheds	8.
dairies	23.
milkshops	2.

Number of above cowkeepers & milksellers who hold licences under the Milk (Special Designations) Order 1936 in respect of:-
Tuberculin Accredited. Pasteurised and tested

Establishments of producers & bottlers	1
of producers only	1

Supplementary licences to sell milk from shops or other establishments outside the area of the licensing authority 3

Number of inspections	25
Defects found in cowsheds surroundings	4
Sanitary condition	6
Number of notices - verbal and written	10
Number of these notices complied with	10



Section E.Inspection and Supervision of Food. (continued)

The following food stuffs were voluntarily surrendered during the year as being unfit for human consumption:-

Fruit - 51 tins. Fish - 10 tins. Vegetables - 3 tins. Meat 15 tins. Jam - 7 jars. Soup - 2 tins. Sauce 3 bottles. Milk - 5 tins. Flakes - 1 package. Kippers - 42 lbs.

Weight in lbs of Diseased, Unsound or Unfit Meat found in Animals inspected.

	Casualty. <u>Carcases & Offals.</u>	Ordinary. <u>Carcases & Offals.</u>	<u>Totals.</u>
Beef.	42380	456	42836
Veal.	485	---	485
Mutton.	1384	55	1439
Pork.	14	19414	19428
	<hr/> 44263	<hr/> 19925	<hr/> 64188

English Meat Destroyed.

	Tons.	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.
Casualty	19	15	0	23
Ordinary	8	17	3	17
Grand total	28	13	0	12

Particulars of diseased conditions found - Tuberculosis, Localised and Generalised, and other generalised conditions.

	Cattle.	Calves.	Sheep.	Pigs.	Totals.
Tuberculosis- Localised	5			778	781
Tuberculosis - Generalised	14			5	19
Odema	15	1	1	1	18
Hydremia			7		7
Peritonitis	3	1			4
Pneumonia		1		6	7
Sepsis			4		4
Enteritis				1	1
Gangrene	1				1
Nephritis	1				1
Sapremia				1	1
Johnes disease	3				3
Jaundice				1	1
Black Quarter	1	1			2
Mastitis	1				1
Milk Fever	1				1
Accidents, defective bleeding, degenerations &c	24	2	9		35
	64	6	21	15	106

The total amount of meat condemned as unfit for human consumption is much less than the total amount condemned for the year 1937. The total weight of meat condemned amounts to 28T.13C.12 lbs., involving the destruction of 106 whole carcasses found to be diseased, unsound



or unfit. It will be observed that over 19 tons of this meat was condemned at the casualty slaughter-house, but this is a considerable decrease on the 30 tons condemned at this slaughter-house last year. This slaughter-house is used by farmers from a wide area for the slaughtering of casualty animals in the hope that some part of the carcass might be saved. Such meat as is passed as fit for human consumption is not sold retail in this district. Meat voluntarily surrendered by the ordinary butchers of the district amounts to 8 tons, 17 cwt, 3 qrs, 17 lbs.

As compared with last year, there is a substantial decrease in the percentage of tuberculosis found in bovines, and a slight decrease in the percentage of tuberculosis found in swine. Of 252 beasts inspected, 17 (or approximately 6.74 per cent) were found to be suffering from tuberculosis in some degree.

The high standard of meat offered for sale by the butchers of the town has been maintained throughout the year.

Animals inspected under the Tuberculosis Order 1938.

The following is a summary of the inspection of animals brought into this district under the above Order with a view to the whole or part of the carcass being passed for human consumption. 117 animals were so inspected. The clinical examinations, carried out by the Veterinary Inspection of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, resulted in their being classified under the following heads:-

Suffering from tuberculosis of the udder	40.
Suffering from tuberculosis Emaciation	4.
Giving tuberculous milk	3.
Suffering from Chronic Cough & showing definite clinical signs of tuberculosis	80.
Total	127

These animals were subsequently examined post mortem by me and the following conditions were found:-

Suffering from Generalised tuberculosis	80.
" Localised	40.
No tuberculosis lesions found	7.

Generalised conditions entailing the destruction of the whole carcass and viscera were:-

Generalised tuberculosis	80
Localised " and emaciation	8
" " and odema	4
" " and Johnes disease	1
" " and Sepsis	1
No tuberculosis. Odema	3
Localised tuberculosis entailing the destruction of parts only	29
No disease	1.

The approximate weights and carcasses and viscera destroyed as unfit for human consumption was 26 tons, 3 qrs, 14 lbs. This weight is not included in the weights given for condemned meat in the casualty and ordinary meat inspection, neither are the animals included in the figures given for animals inspected or slaughtered.

(Signed) C.G. Speake,
Sanitary Inspector.

	<u>Carcasses inspected and condemned.</u>		<u>Sheep</u>	
	<u>Cattle</u>	<u>Calves.</u>	<u>& Lambs.</u>	<u>Pigs.</u>
Number killed (if known)	500	87	1786	6738
Number inspected	252	49	553	4907

All diseases except Tuber- -culosis	Cattle	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs
Whole carcasses condemned	59	6	21	10
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	69	2	107	21
Percentage of the no. inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	49.22	16.32	23.14	0.631

Tuberculosis only.

Whole carcasses condemned	14	5
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	3	778
Percentage of the no. inspected affected with Tuberculosis	6.74	15.95

Number of slaughterhouses in district 10.

Number of persons licensed to stun & slaughter animals in slaughter houses and knackers yards 30.

Action taken with regard to inspections of slaughterhouses, shops, stalls and vehicles and places where food is prepared:- Routine inspection of slaughter-houses. Weekly inspection of stalls & in Market. Shops and places where food prepared inspected periodically and as required.

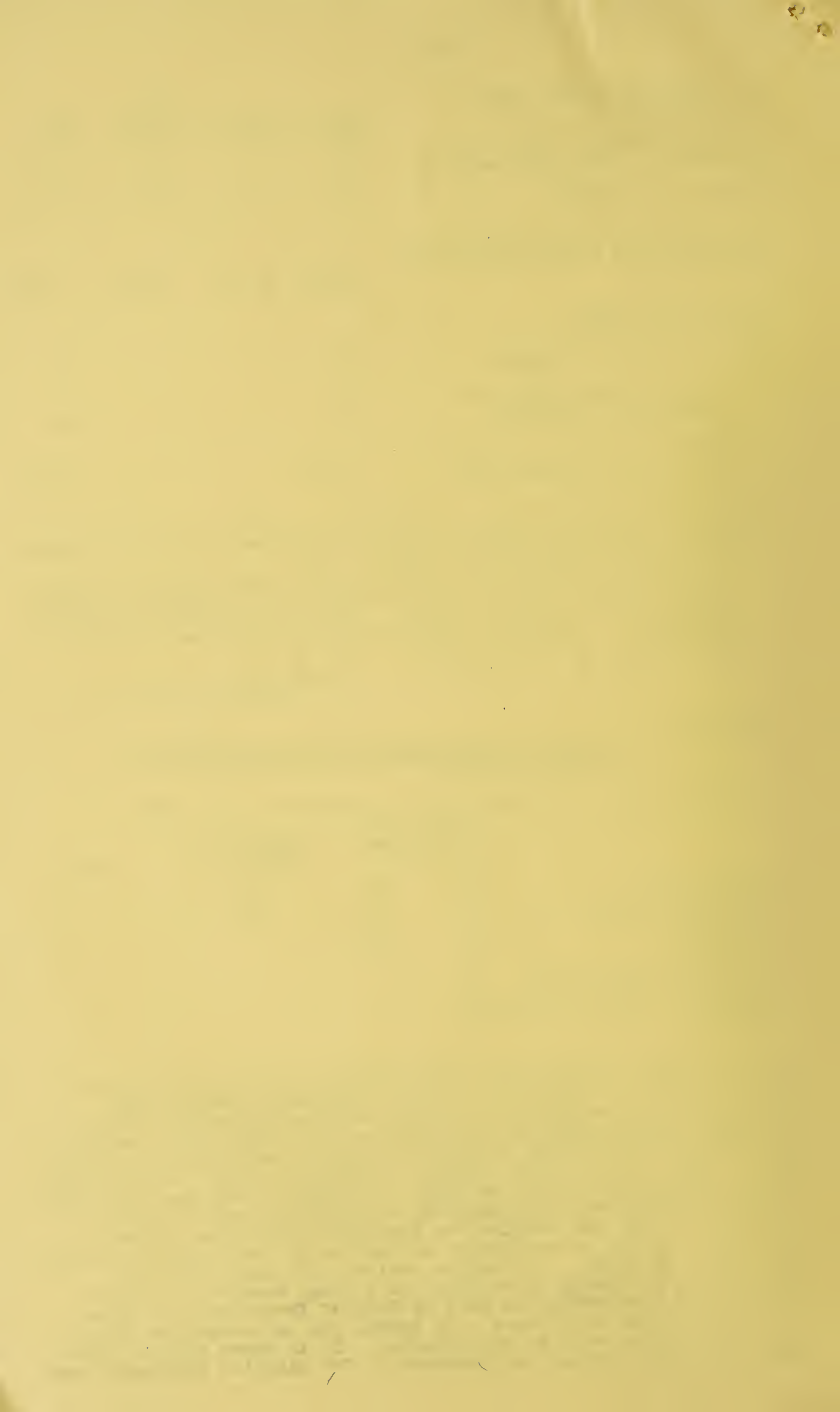
C.G. Speake,
Sanitary Inspector.

Section F.Prevalence of and control over Infectious and other diseases.

Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) notified during 1938.

	Total cases notified.		Admitted to hospital.	Deaths.
	(1938)	(1937)		
Scarlet Fever	10	16	7	
Diphtheria	37	42	22	
Puerperal Pyrexia	2	2		
Pneumonia	14	24		
Erysipelas	1			
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1			
Malaria (contracted abroad)	1			
Dysentery	3			

While the above table shows a Reduction in the collective number of cases notified in 1938, the total for diphtheria remains high. Investigation shows that the majority of these cases fell within the age group corresponding to the first year of school life, that the cases could be localised to certain centres - new estate off Haygate Road - Trekin Road - Urban Gardens - Children's Home - suggests infection by contact either at play or in school, and that the height of the epidemic was in January and gradually tapered off until in the month of May the district was free from infectious disease. There was a slight recrudescence at the end of the year, but the numbers were not large. It may be noticed also that while the grouping of diphtheria is confined in a great measure to school children the same cannot be said of Scarlet Fever which is spread over an age group of 2 years - 40 years, and no particular subdivision can be said to predominate. It is known that by prophylactic protection as is practised in the district diphtheria can



be held in check and it may be that better results will be obtained (1) when the scheme gains greater maturity - (2) when there is a greater response to the appeal - to accelerate this concentration is placed on protection of infants entering school (3) when complete control and protection is given to extraneous children coming to the district - to the Children's Home &c - this is receiving attention. No effort will be spared to achieve a result which will reduce the incidence of this disease and give greater security to children attending school. Happily there were no deaths from infectious diseases. Below are appended tables on the foregoing:-

Years	Scarlet Fever.	<u>Age Incidence</u> Diphtheria.	Pneumonia	Puerperal Pyrexia
2/3	1	1	1	-
3/4	-	1	-	-
4/5	-	1	-	-
5/10	2	25	3	-
10/15	2	6	3	-
15/20	1	3	2	-
25/35	3	-	-	2
35/45	1	-	-	-
45/65	-	-	4	-
over 65	-	-	1	-

	Seasonal Incidence									
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	Jun	Jul	Oct	Nov	Dec	
Diphtheria	12	6	5	4	1	-	5	1	3	
Scarlet Fever	1	2	-	-	1	2	-	2	2	
Notified S.Fever per 1000 pop.	1.0.					England & Wales		2.41.		
„, Siphtheria	,					,,		1 58		

No. of cases immunised. School Children 135. Changes have been made in the scheme for immunisation. Inclusion is now made for preschool children and a transfer is in contemplation for the use of A.P.T. in place of T.A.M., which change should give greater efficiency to the scheme.

Section F. Division 5.

Tuberculosis

New cases & Mortality during 1938.

	Cases.				Mortality.			
	Respiratory.		Non-respiratory.		Respiratory.		Non-Resp.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
5/10	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
10/15	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-
15/25	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
25/35	1	-	1	1	-	1	-	-
35/45	2	-	-	1	1	-	-	-
45/55	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
55/65	1	-	-	-	2	-	-	-
Over 65	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-

The number of cases remaining on the Register at the end of 1938 was

	Males		Females	
	Pulmonary.	Non-Pulmonary.	Pulmonary.	Non-Pulmonary.
1938	34	28	23	46
1937	29	29	23	40
1938.	Total	131.	1937	121.

Annual Report of the Medical Office of Health for the year 1938 for the Urban District of Wellington in the County of Shropshire on the administration of the Factory and Workshop Act 1901 and the Factories Act 1937.

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health including inspections made by Sanitary Inspector.

Premises (1)	Inspections (2)	Number of Written notices (3)	Occupiers prosecuted (4)
Factories with mechanical power	20	-	-
Factories without ditto	12	-	-
Other premises under the Act	-	-	-
Total	32	-	-

2.

Defects found

Particulars (1)	No. of defects Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred to H.M. Insp. (4)	Prosecu- tions in stituted (5)
Want of cleanliness	4	4	-	-
Overcrowding	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors	-	-	-	-
Sanitary conveniences:-				
Insufficient	-	-	-	-
Unsuitable or defective	1	1	-	-
Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-
Other offences	2	2	-	-
Total	7	7	-	-

